Appl. No. 10/618,781 Response to Office Action Dated May 5, 2006 Dated August 7, 2006

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Applicants again acknowledge receipt of the Office Action dated May 5, 2006 in which the Examiner rejected claims 10 and 11 as anticipated under § 102(b) by Messing (U.S. publication 2002/0193237 A1) (hereinafter *Messing*) indicated that claims 1-9, 12-55, and 57-68 are allowable.

Claim 10 has been amended to recite that the binding solution comprises a cementing agent, an activator, and a solvent. *Messing* does not teach or suggest the use of a binding solution comprising these components. Applicants respectfully submit that claim 10 is therefore allowable, along with claim 11, which depends from it.

Applicants therefore believe all pending claims are now allowable over the art of record and respectfully request reconsideration and allowance of all claims.

Conclusion

Applicants respectfully submit that the present amendments place the case in condition for allowance. Applicants therefore request that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw the rejections and allow the case. If the Examiner has any questions or comments, he is encouraged to telephone the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

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